

Seattle Human Rights Commission

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 5, 2012, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

<u>Commissioners Present:</u>	Jessica Andrade, Damien Carter, Nika Dahlbacka, Joshua Marshall, Mariah Ortiz, Merri Ann Osborne, Marty Penner, Mica Powers, Roslyn Solomon, Christopher Stearns, Jennifer Yogi
<u>Commissioners Absent:</u>	Jesse Aspuria, Marsha Mavunkel, Andrea Negrete, Michael Plengrat, Greg Ramirez
<u>SOCR Staff Present:</u>	Felicia Yearwood, Michael Chin
<u>Guest Speakers:</u>	Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata
<u>Call to Order:</u>	The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.
<u>Approval of Minutes:</u>	June 2012 minutes were approved as read
<u>SOCR report:</u>	Michael Chin

The Paid Sick and Safe Time rules were finalized on Tuesday. The Seattle Human Rights Rules will be open for comment beginning on Wednesday for two weeks. Commissioner may offer comments before, during, or after the comment period. SOCR is identifying the benefits of Paid Sick and Safe Time for employers.

Two reasonable cause cases: (1) differential pricing for women's and men's haircuts, (2) mixed public accommodation and housing case, where the Archdiocese used the wrong standard.

The Taylor v. Melton case, which had been scheduled for hearing, has been mediated.

Councilmember Licata:

Yesler Terrace is being redeveloped, which will require relocation of 500 residents. In the past, individuals with criminal records were not allowed to return to public housing post redevelopment. The Council proposes amendments that would allow ex-offenders to return as long as safety can be maintained. Councilmember Licata requests that the Commission send a letter of support for its proposals, or a letter of thanks if Seattle Housing Authority

agrees to the amendments. Marty Penner will lead an analysis of this issue at the next Commission meeting using the Human Rights Analysis Tool.

Committee Reports:

Executive: Chris Stearns met with Councilmember Burgess regarding the City budget. Discussion focused on staff cuts. CM Burgess would appreciate a human rights analysis of other budget items.

Bias Crimes: Nika Dahlbacka reported that a second planning meeting will be scheduled within the next two weeks.

Vendor Code of Conduct: Mariah Ortiz will send a summary of the work to date. Jennifer Yogi and Greg Ramirez will connect with Kristen Beifus (Washington Fair Trade Coalition) and Scarlett Aldebot-Green (UW Center for Human Rights).

Nominating: Twenty nine applications have been received; seven candidates have been interviewed; additional interviews are scheduled for July 20th.

Police Accountability: Chris Stearns reported: The Mayor's 20/20 plan includes some of the Department of Justice recommendations, but is not enforceable. Councilmember Harrell wants to move forward with body cameras; working with the ACLU to draft acceptable language. Nika Dahlbacka to review other jurisdictions.

Law and Policy Analysis: Jennifer Yogi met with Councilmember Bruce Harrell and his staff and nonprofit agencies. A bill has been drafted but is not yet available for distribution.

Appeals: Marty Penner, Nika Dahlbacka, and Jennifer Yogi to serve on July panel.

Human Rights Day: Joshua Marshall reported that the theme will focus on youth. Joshua is in contact with the World Affairs Council, Town Hall, and the University of Washington to identify speakers.

Election

Vice Chair: Joshua Marshall
Secretary: Nika Dahlbacka

Adjourned: 8:00 p.m.